

U. S. Patent Application No.: 09/746,192
Amendment and Remarks to Accompany Request for Continued Examination
Dated January 10, 2006

Remarks

The present application stands allowed per a Notice of Allowance dated July 22, 2005. Applicants have concurrently filed an appropriate petition to facilitate entry of the present amendment.

The applicants herein amend the specification in minor respects. For clarity, amendments are presented in the form of a substitute specification. While limitations of a patent specification are not to be imported into the claims, applicants amend the formatting of the application slightly to further emphasize that limitations of the specification are not to be imported into the claims. Specifically, certain sections of text are moved into the Detailed Description section of the application. Also, applicants have replaced the term "invention" in locations throughout the specification with alternative language. The Examiner will appreciate that the lengthy specification which has formed support for numerous issued patents describes several different inventions unrelated to the invention being claimed.

An amended priority claim is presented in the substitute specification. The amended priority claim recites that the application is a divisional application claiming priority to pending U. S. Patent Application No. 09/385,597 filed August 30, 1999 and to parent applications of U. S. Patent Application No. 09/385,597 through U. S. Patent Application No. 09/385,597. The Office of Patent Legal Administration has confirmed that the requested priority claim provision is appropriate under *MPEP §201.11*. The substitute specification also addresses a one digit transposition informality in the reference to U. S. Patent Application No. 08/914,883. Notwithstanding the one digit transposition, applicants believe that U. S. Patent Application No. 08/914,883 was clearly referenced by the applicants in the specification in view of the context of the disclosure. The Examiner will note further that the patent specification document of U. S. Patent Application No. 08/914,883 is additionally incorporated by reference in the specification with the reference to U. S. Patent Application No. 08/516,185, the file wrapper associated FWC parent of U. S. Patent Application No. 08/914,883 (see column 2 of U. S. Patent No. 5,965,863 and column 2 of U. S. Patent No.

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5,900,613, incorporated by reference). The amendments also update certain referenced applications with patent numbers.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the applicants' representative if the designation of the present application as a "divisional" of U. S. Patent Application No. 09/385,597 is deemed inappropriate. *See 37 C.F.R. §201.06*

In addition, an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner is concurrently filed.

None of the amendments presented herein contain new matter. In that the amendments presented herein are regarded to recite only matters of form, applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, further consideration of the application, and a prompt Supplemental Notice of Allowance to supplement the Notice of Allowance dated July 22, 2005.

Accordingly, in view of the amendments and remarks, applicants believe all of the claims of the present application to be in condition for allowance and respectfully request reconsideration and passage to allowance of the application.

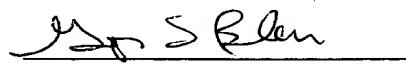
If the Examiner believes that contact with applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call applicants' representative at the phone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0289.

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Respectfully submitted,
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Date: January 10, 2006



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